A Brief

CATECHISME

Containing

THE DOCTRINE
OF GODLINES,

OR

OF LIVING UNTO GOD.

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THE DOCTRINE of Godlineſs.

Queſt.

WHat is Divinity?

Anſw. The Doctrine of Godlineſs, or of living unto God. Rom.6. 11.

Queſt. *How many parts hath it?*

Anſw. Two: 1. Faith in God.
2. Obedience unto God. Tit.3.8.

Q. *How many Gods are there?*

Anſw. One. Deut.6.4 1Cor.8,5 6.

Q. *How many Perſons are there?*

Anſw. Three.

Q. *Concerning God, what are you to know?* Mat.3.16 & 28.19. Joh.15. 26, 2Cor 13.13. 1Joh.5.7

A. 1. His Being or Eſſence. 2. The manner of his Being. 3. His Workes, all according to his Word, and our meaſure, who here can onely ſee his Back-parts. Ex.33.23

Queſt. *What are you to underſtand by his Being?*

A. God himſelf conſidered abſolutely or eſſentially.

Queſt. *What are you to underſtand by the manner of his Being?*

A. God conſidered Relatively or Perſonally, *viz.* in the Relation of Father, Son, and Holy Ghoſt, which Relative properties are called Perſons.

Qu. *How do you expreſſe your Beliefe concerning God.*

A. I beleive God to be Jehovah Elohim, that is one abſolute being, ſubſiſting in three perſons of Father, Son & Holy Ghoſt.

Eph 1.11 Rev 4.11 Col. 1.16 Pſal. 145. 15,16. Pro. 16. 33.

Qu. *Concerning the works of this one God, how do you diſtinguiſh them?*

A. They are either inward as his Decree, or outward as his Creation and Providence.

Gen. 1.

Qu. *What is Creation?*

A. It is the firſt outward work of God, whereby (in ſix dayes) he made all things of nothing very good.

Gen. 1. 26,27. Gen. 5. 1, 2.

Q. *How did he Create man?*

A. In his own Image created he him Male and Female Created he them.

Eph 4.24

Qu. *Wherein did the Image of God Conſiſt?*

A. In righteouſneſs & true holineſs

Qu. *What is Providence?*

A

A. That by which God governeth all his works, and all the actions thereof as maketh most for his glory, and the good of his elect. Pro. 16.4 Ro. 8.28, 29.

Qu. *What do you consider concerning Gods speciall Government of man?*

A. His prescribing to him a Law and his ordering the events that were to follow thereupon. Deu. 26. 16, 17, 18 19. Rom9.19

Qu. *What do you observe concerning those events?*

A. His fall and his Recovery. Rom5.19 1 Cor. 15 21.

Q. *What do you observe in the fall of man?* Gen.3.6.

A. The transgression or sin it selfe and the propagation of it.

Q. *What was the Transgression?* Gen.3.6, 11,12.

A. The eating of the forbidden fruit.

Q. *What followed thereupon?*

A. Both guilt and punishment, *viz*; death, a great part of which death, is originall sin. Ro. 3.9. 19. Rom5.12 Gen2.17

Qu. *What is Originall sin?*

A. The hereditary and habitual contrariety and enmity of the nature of man against the whole Law of God, consisting in an averseneſſe from all good, and propenſeneſſe unto all evill. Rom7.17 Heb.12.1 Gen.6.5. Rom.8.7. Jer.2.13.

Q. *What is the propagation of sin?*

A. The conveyance of that actual sin of Adam [in eating the forbidden Fruit] and original sin the effect thereof, with the guilt and punishment to all his posterity, proceeding from him by way of ordinary generation.

Job 14.4 Psa. 51.5. Rom. 5. 14. Eph. 2.3.

Q. *How is* Adams *sin made ours?*

A. By participation and imputation.

Rom 5.12

Q. *After what order is sin conveyed and derived unto us?*

A. The actual sin of Adam in eating the forbidden fruit, is made ours by imputation, thence proceedeth original sin, as an effect from the cause, hence actual as an act from the habit.

Q. *What is the way by which God reveals all this misery?*

A. By the Moral Law, the sum of which is the Ten Commandements.

Rom. 7.7.

Q. *What do you believe concerning man in this estate?*

A. That he is wholly dead in sin, the child of wrath and disobedience.

Eph. 2. 1, 2, 3.

Q. *What is mans Recovery?*

A. It is the redeeming of him from the bondage of sin, the curse, and Satan,

Rom. 6. 14. & 8. 2 Gal. 3. 10 Acts 26, 18.

tan, into the liberty of the grace of the Gospel.

Q. *Who is the Redeemer of man?* 1 Tim 2. 5,6.

A. Jesus Christ God-Man.

Q. *What things are there chiefly to be considered in Jesus Christ?* 1 Cor. 15. 21.

A. His fitness to be a Redeemer, and the parts of his Redemption. Acts 4. 22.

Q. *In what doth his fitness to be a Redeemer consist?*

A. In his Person and Office.

Qu. *Touching the Person of Christ what are you to know?*

A. The distinction of the two natures, *viz.* Divine and Humane, and the union of them both into one person in him. Matth. 1. 23. Joh. 1. 16

Q. *What is the union of the two Natures in one person?*

A. That whereby the second Person in the Trinity [*viz.* the Divine Essence subsisting in the relation of the Son] assumed the Manhood like unto us in all things sin only excepted, & the manner of its subsistence, for the manhood never subsisted but in the Godhead from which union of the Divine & Humane nature, both Natures make but one Person in him. Joh. 1. 14 Col. 2. 9. 1 Tim. 3. 16. Heb. 4. 15

Q. VVhy must Jesus Christ be Man?

Gen 2.17
1 Cor. 15 21.

A. That hee might in our nature suffer for us.

Q. VVhy must he be God?

2 Cor. 13 4.
Heb. 9. 14
1 Pet 3. 18

A. That his sufferings might be overcome by him, and be made effectuall unto us.

Q. VVhat is the Mediatorly Office of the Lord Jesus Christ?

Heb. 5 4, 5, 6.
Joh. 6. 27
Joh 10. 18
Phil. 2. 6.
Esa. 53. 10

A. It is the work of Mediation committed to the Son by the Father, accepted readily and freely by the Son, thereby procuring the application of the grace of God unto the Elect, and uniting and reconciling the Elect unto God, and working all things parteining to their everlasting good and salvation.

Q. VVhat are the parts of this Mediatorly Office?

Deut. 18. 15.
Act. 3, 22
Psa 110 4
Heb. 7. 17
Psal. 2. 6.
Dan. 2. 44
Luk. 1. 33

A. 3.
1. Propheticall, whence he is a Prophet.
2. Prieſtly, whence hee is a Prieſt.
3. Kingly, whēce he is a King

Q. What doth Christ as he is a Prophet?

Heb. 3. 1.
Mal. 3. 1.

A. He doth reveale unto his people the whole counsell of God, teaching them to know the evill they are falne into

into, and all the good that God in him hath provided for them.

Q. *What doth he as he is a Priest?*

A. He by offering up himself a sacrifice upon the Crosse, took away the sin of the Elect, procured for them the mercy of God, and now lives to make intercession for them. Col. 1. 20,22. Heb. 7.25

Q. *What doth he as he is a King?*

A. That which he reveales as a Prophet, and purchaseth as a Priest, that he applieth unto the Elect by his Spirit as a King, together with the everlasting overthrow of his and their enemies. Rev. 1.18 1 Cor. 15 24,25.

Q. *What are the parts of Christs Redemption?*

A. Two: His Humiliation and Exaltation.

Q. *What is his Humiliation?*

A. It is the state of the Person of Christ, wherein as Mediator God-Man, he was subject to the righteousnesse of God, humbled himselfe, and became obedient to the death, even the death of the Crosse. Phil. 2.8.

Q. *What are the parts thereof?*

A. Two: his poore life, and cursed

2 Cor. 8. 9 Phil. 2. 8. Gal. 3. 13. sed (though otherwise everlastingly blessed) death.

Q. What is the exaltation of Christ?

Joh. 2. 19 & 10. 18. Rom. 8. 4. & 8. 34. Heb. 10. 12. & 12. 2. *A.* That state of the person of Christ wherein as Mediator God-Man after his humiliation, he arose from the dead, ascended into Heaven, and sits at the right hand of God that is, in a state of glory next to the glory of God himself.

Q. How is the Redemption applied?

1 Cor. 12. 13. *A.* By the saving work of the Spirit, whence that which Christ hath purchased as Mediator, is seasonably and effectually applied unto his Elect.

Q. What are the parts of this application?

1 Pet. 1. 21. Rom. 11. 17. *A.* Two: Union with Jesus Christ and so with God in and by him: 2 Communion.

Q. What is Union?

A. It is a Relation founded upon the work of the Spirit on Christs part, and faith wrought by the Spirit on our part, whereby the Lord Jesus Christ stands as an head to the believer, and the believer as a member unto Christ for ever.

Q. When is union wrought?

A. At

A. At the ſame time with, but in order of nature following Vocation.

Q. What is Vocation?

A. A principle of life, or (as ſome ſpeak) the habit of faith, infuſed by the Spirit into the loſt ſoul, by the means of, and together with the external call of the Goſpel, in which work the ſoul is meerly paſſive, that is, a meer paſſive receiver. Eph. 2.1. Rom. 10. 17. Jam. 1.18 Joh. 6.44

Q. What is the effect of Vocation?

A. Iuſtifying faith, by which act the ſoul called, anſwereth the call of God, and truſteth perfectly unto God by Chriſt for ſalvation. Joh. 3. 15,16. 1 Pet. 1. 21.

Q. What grace is that which followeth hereupon?

A. Evangelical Repentance, which conſiſts in an averſeneſſe from ſin, ſorrow for ſin, and a ſtedfaſt purpoſe for a new life. Amos 5. 14,15.

Q. What followeth upon Union?

A. Communion.

Q. What is Communion?

A. It is that by which a believer, by vertue of his Union, is orderly made partaker of all the remaining good of the Covenant of Grace. Rom. 8. 32. Eph. 1.13.

Q. What

Q. *What are the chief benefits of communion?*

A. Four: 1. Juſtification, 2. Adoption, 3. Sanctification, 4. Glorification.

Q. *What is Juſtification?*

A. It is a gracious act of God the Father upon a believer, whereby he doth freely diſcharge him from ſin, and accept him as righteous, for the righteouſneſs ſake of Chriſt imputed to him.

Rom 3. 22,24. Rom. 1.5 2 Cor. 5. 19.

Q. *How doth a Believer apply this imputed righteouſneſs of Jeſus Chriſt?*

A. By Faith.

Gal. 3 8. Rom. 9. 30. Phil. 3.9.

Q. *What is adoption?*

A. A gracious act of God by which he doth acknowledge and declare all believers to be his ſons.

Joh. 1. 12

Q. *What is Sanctification?*

A. An inherent grace whereby a believer is inclined (and by aſſiſting grace effectually inabled) to bring down every high thought and to yield Evangelicall obedience to the revealed Will of God.

Jer. 31. 33. Ezek. 16. 26,27. 1 Cor. 5. 10. 2 Cor. 10 4.5.

Q. *What are the parts of Sanctification?*

A. Two:

A. Two: Mortification, and Vivification. Col.3.3, 5. Col.3.10

Q. *What is Glorification?*

A. It is that ſtate wherein the Elect being freed from all imperfection, doe enjoy perfect bleſſedneſs in the preſence of God and the Lamb for ever. Rom.8. 10. Rev.21. 22. 1 Theſſ. 4.17.

Q. *What is the ſubject whereunto Redemption is applied?*

A. The Catholick Church; which is both the effect and ſubject thereof Epheſ.5. Eph.5. 26,27.

Q. *What is the Catholick Church?* Joh.17.

A. Moſt properly it is taken for that number of the Elect and Redeemed which God hath effectually called out of the world unto faith in Chriſt Jeſus. 9, 10,11. 1 Cor. 1. 24. 1 Cor.10. 32.

Q. *Whether are there more Catholick Churches then one?*

A. No, there is but one.

Q. *How is this Catholick Church diſtinguiſhed?*

A. It is either viſible or inviſible. Rev. 1.4. 2 Cor. 8. 19.

Q. *What is a viſible Church?* Luk.17.1.

A. It is a part of the Catholick Church, conſiſting of a competent number knit together by way of a viſible Rom. 2. 28,29. 1 Pet.3.4

visible Covenant, to exercise an holy Communion according to the Rules of the Gospel.

Q. *What is the matter of this Church?*

Eph. 1. 1. 1 Cor. 1. 2 with 2 Cor. 1. 1

A. Visible Believers.

Q. *What is the form?*

A. A visible Covenant.

Q. *What is the gift of Christ unto his Church?*

Matt. 16. 19.

A. The Keys of the Kingdome of Heaven, that is, the Church-instituted Worship of the Gospel, together with the power of the exercise thereof.

Q. *How is this power to be exercised?*

Mat. 28. 18, 19. 1 Cor. 12. 28. 1 Tim. 5. 17. Matt. 18. 17. 1 Cor. 5. 2, 4, 5, 12. 2 Cor. 2. 6

A. Preaching by Office and administration of the Sacraments belong to the Teaching-Elders, Government belongs to the whole Presbytery, the rest of the power to the whole multitude, all according to order.

Q. *What are the names of the Officers instituted by Christ in his Church?*

Rom. 12. 7, 8. Eph. 4. 11 Rom. 12. 8. 1 Cor. 12. 28. 1 Tim. 5. 1 Acts 6. 1 Tim. 3. 8

A. Pastors, Teachers, Ruling-Elders, [who have the care of Spirituall things] Deacons, Widows, who have the care of temporal things.

Q. *In*

Q. In case of incorrigibleness in the Eldership, where doth the power preservative of the whole remain?

A. With the Brotherhood, the first subject thereof.

Q. In case of difference between the Presbytery and the Brotherhood, [or otherwise] not reconcileable with the peace of the Church, what is to be done?

A. The Church is to repair unto a Council for help. Acts 15.

Q. What is the power of the Council?

A. To declare the truth, not to exercise authority; the question is onely carried to the Council, the cause remains with the Church.

Q. What are the outward means by which Redemption is applied?

A. Four: 1 The Ministery of the Word, which Word is contained in the Scriptures of Truth: 2 The Ministery of the Sacraments: 3 Prayer: 4 Discipline. 1 Cor. 3. 5 Rom. 10. 17. Dan. 10. 21. Ro. 4. 11, Mat. 7. 7. Matt. 21. 22. & 18. 15, 16. 1 Cor. 5. 5

Q. What are the Scriptures?

A. They are the revealed will of God contained in the Books of the Old and New Testament, the constant, perpetual, and onely Rule of Faith and Manners. Rev. 22. 18, 19.

Q. What

Q. *What is a Sacrament?*

Rom. 4. 11. A. It is a Seal of the Covenant of Grace.

Q. *How many Sacraments are there?*

A. Two: Baptiſm, and the Lords Supper.

Q. *What is Prayer?*

John 14. 13, 14. Rom. 8. 26. A. It is an act of Worſhip wherein we doe religiouſly repreſent our deſires unto God in the name of Chriſt.

Q. *Where have you the ſubſtance of things to be deſired or prayed for?*

Matth. 6. 9. A. In the Lords Prayer.

Q. *How many parts are there of Prayer?*

Phil. 4. 6. A. Three: 1. Confeſſion: 2. Petition: 3. Thankſgiving.

Q. *What other acts of worſhip may fall out here ſometimes?*

Pſ. 76. 11. Heb. 6. 16 A. A Vow, an Oath, a Lot.

Q. *What is Diſcipline?*

Mat. 16. 19. and 18. 15, 16, 17. A. A perſonall application of Rebuke or Cenſure, according to the Rule of the Goſpel.

Q. *After what order is Diſcipline to be exerciſed?*

Matt. 18. 15, 16, 17 1 Tim. 5. 20. A. In private offences privately, but in publike publikely.

Q. *After*

Queſt. *After all that good of Redemption applyed, which God intended his Elect in the uſe of outward meanes, what do you further believe?*

Anſw. The Reſurrection of the Dead and the laſt Judgment. 2 Cor. 5. 10. Dan. 12. 2. Heb 10. 35. Joh. 5. 28 29.

Q. *What doe you believe concerning the laſt Judgment?*

A. That Jeſus Chriſt ſhall come in Perſon to Judg both the quick and the dead, according to their deeds, when the wicked ſhall go into everlaſting puniſhment, but the righteous into life eternall. Rom. 2 16. 2 Cor 5. 10. Matt. 25. 46.

Qu. *When ſhall theſe things bee?*

A. At the end of the world. Mat. 13. 40. 1 Pet. 1. 2

Q. *What is the ſecond part of Godlines?* 1 Pe. 1. 14

A. Obedience unto God. 15. Rom 6. 16, 18.

Q. *What is Obedience?*

A. Conformity to Gods Law. Mich. 6. 8 Ro. 12. 2

Qu. *What is repuired to the performance of an act of Obedience, which is commonly called a good worke?*

A. Three things: that it be, firſt, commanded; ſecondly done in faith; thirdly, done to the glory of God. Iſa. 29. 13 Mat. 15. 9 Ro. 14. 13 1 Cor. 10. 31.

Q. *What is the rule of Obedience?*

A. The Decalogue, or ten Commandements, Deu. 4. 13 Mich. 6. 8.

dements, unto which, what is commanded in Scripture, may be reduced.

Math.22, 37,38,39 40,

Q. *How is the Decalogue divided?*

Ex.31.18 Deu.9.10 Ex.32.16

A. Into two Tables, according to the two general parts of obedience.

Q. *Which are those two pares of obedience?*

Math.22. 37. Ro.1.18.

A. 1. Religion, shewing our immediate dutie towards God, the summe of the first Table. 2. Righteousnesse, shewing our duty toward our neighbour, the summe of the second Table.

Q. *How many Commandements are contained in the first Table?*

A. The foure first.

Q. *How many are contained in the second Table?*

A. The six last.

Q. *Which is the first Commandement?*

Ex.20.3.

A. Thou shalt have none other Gods before me.

Q. *What is here Commanded?*

Mat.4.19 Deu.6.45

A That we worship God, and him alone.

Q. *What are we here forbiden?*

Je.10.25 Ro.1.21, 22,23. 2Kin.17. 33.

A. Not worshipping of God, which is Atheisme; Worshipping others, and not God, which is Idolatry; Worshipping

ping others together with God, which is Polutheisme, *viz.* worshipping many Gods.

Q. *Which is the second Commdement?*

A. Thou shalt not make to thy self any Graven Image. Exo. 20. 4,5,6.

Q. *What is here Commanded.*

A That God is to be worshipped with his owne worship onely. Deu4.12 Deut.12 30,31,32.

Q. *What is here forbiden?*

A. 1 Contempt of worship: 2 All will-worsnip, whether Idolatry, *viz.* worshipping of God at or in an Image; by which it is distinguished from that Idolatry forbidden in the first Cõmandement, or Superstition. Eze.33. 31. Luk. 19.46. Col.2. 18,22.

Q. *Which is the 3. Commandement?*

A. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord in vaine. Ex.20.7.

Quest. *What is here Commanded?*

A. That we worship God after due manner, and that we use his name reverently at all times. Deu12.4 1 Cor.14. 40.26. Mal.1,11 12,13.

Quest. *What is here forbidden?*

A. All irreverence in the worship of God, or concerning the use of his name, as contempt, rashnesse, lightnesse, blasphemy. Eccl.5.1, 2.

Quest. *Which is the 4. Comandement?*

Ex.20.8, 9.10, 11. A. Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy, &c.

Q. *What are we here Commanded?*

Gen.2.2 3. Act. 20.7. 1Cor.16. 2. Reve. 1 10. A. The setting apart of the seventh day to the immediate service of God.

Q. *What are we here forbidden?*

Gal.4:10 Col.2.16 Is 58.13 A. 1. Any humane institution of holy dayes, or holy times. 2. The employing of this time in any such way as hinders the worship of the Day.

Q. *After what order is our duty towards our Neighbour taught?*

A. Concerning his
- Honour in the 5.
- Life in the 6.
- Chastity in the 7.
- Goods in the 8.
- Good name in the 9.
- Prosperity in the 10.

Q. *What is the fifth Comandement?*

Ex 20.12 A. Honour thy Faher and thy Mother, &c.

Q. *What are we here Commanded?*

Eph.6.2. 2King.2. 12.&. 5. 13;14. 1Per.2.7. Ro12.10 A That we walk orderly in our callings, inwardly acknowledging, and outwardly according to Rule, expressing that honour which is due to Superiours, Inferiours, Equals, according to their several relations.

Quest:

Queſt. *What are we here forbidden?*

A. All neglect of duty in this kind. 2Tim.3.2 Iſa.3.9.

Q. *What is the ſixt Commandement?*

A. Thou ſhalt not kill. Ex.20.13

Q. *What are we here Commanded?*

A. The uſe of all due meanes that conduce to the good of our Neighbour, concerning his ſpiritual or temporal life. Mat.5.43 44.45. Luke 10. 27.

Q. *What are we here forbidden?*

A. The neglect of any meanes tending to that end, or the uſe of any meanes contrary thereunto. Mat. 25. 4. 1Jo.3.17 Mat.5.22

Q. *Which is the ſeventh Cõmandement?*

A. Thou ſhalt not commit adultery. Ex.20.14

Q. *What are here Commanded?*

A. The uſe of all due meanes for the preſervation of our own and our neighbours chaſtity. 1 The.4.4 1Co.7.34

Qu. *What are we here forbidden?*

A. All uncleanneſſe, together with the ſignes, meanes, or acceſſaries thereof, or tending thereunto. 1The.4.5 Job 31.1

Qu. *What is the eight Cõmandement?*

A. Thou ſhalt not ſteale. Ex.20.15

Queſt. *What is here Commanded?*

A. That properties being kept undisturbed, we poſſeſs that which is our own, not anothers, & that without injury to any. Pro.22.2 2Th.3.12 Luk.3.14

Qu. *What are we here forbidden?*

1 Th.4.6. Prov.20. 10. *A.* All fraudulence & corruptneſſe in our dealing, concerning matters of commutative juſtice.

Ex.20.16 Q. *What is the ninth Cómandement?*

A. Thou ſhalt not bear falſe witnes

Pſa 15.2. Eph.4.25 Deu.17.6 Q. *VVhat are we here Commanded?*

A. To uſe all due meanes to know the truth, and to beare witneſſe to the known truth, being called thereunto.

Pſa.12.2. Eph.4.25 Mat.26. 60,61. Joh.2.19 with Act. 6.14. Pr.24.11 Pro.11,5 1 Sam.1. 13. Q. *What is here forbidden?*

A. All lying by direct falſe teſtimony, or unlawful ambiguity: 2. Concealing the truth we ought to reveal: 3 Revealing the truth we ought to conceal: 4. Alſo whatſoever may do harm to the truth, as unjuſt ſuſpition.

Ex.20.17 Q. *What is the tenth Commandment?*

A. Thou ſhalt not covet.

Heb.13.5 1 Tim.6.6 Phil.4.11 Q. *What are we here commanded?*

A. Contentation in our preſent eſtate.

Heb.13.5 Job 5.2. Q. *VVhat are we here forbidden?*

A. Deſiring of, or envying at the good of our Neighbour.

FINIS.